-2-

Fig. 9 is a block-level diagram that illustrates how the protocol/configuration auto-agreement mechanism is implemented within each station.

Fig. 10 shows the arbitration state machine.

Fig. 11 shows the Transmit state machine.

Fig. 12 shows the Receive state machine.

Fig. 13 illustrates the application of the FLP Detect Timers.

Fig. 14 illustrates the operation of the FLP Burst Timer.

α¹ Cont'd. Fig. 15 illustrates the operation of FLP Data Detect Timers.

Fig. 16 is a table which summarizes the timer minimum and maximum values.

Fig. 17-19 illustrates an example of how an NWay Capable station negotiates with a station that is only capable of 10BASE-T and that is in Link_Fail State.

Fig. 18 shows the case in which the 10BASE-T only station begins receiving FLPs in between bursts.

Fig. 19 shows the case in which the 10BASE-T only station begins receiving FLPs just before the last pulse in an FLP burst.

Fig. 20 illustrates an example of how an Auto-Detect Capable station negotiates with a station that is only capable of 10BASE-T and that is in Link_Fail State.

Fig. 21 illustrates negotiation between two Auto-Detect Capable stations that have multiple Common Capabilities.

Fig. 22 illustrates negotiation between two 100BASE-T4 auto-detect capable stations. *and 23A-23C are*

Fig. 23 is a flowchart of a protocol arbitration resolution algorithm (PARA) in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 24 shows a bit definition for a PID selector word.

Fig. 25 schematically illustrates an example of a small network.--